

## McKenna, Neil

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**From:** Kim, Sabrina  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2020 6:01 PM  
**To:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); Zimmerman, Shannon  
**Cc:** Stickney, Matt; Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC); Wellstead, Alex; Vaillancourt, Ann-Clara; Laycock, Tristan (SPAC/PSPC); Lawrence, Alex; Nathoo, Farees; Cuplinskas, Katherine; Khalil, Samantha  
**Subject:** RE: Planes flag

Hi – I wonder if we can just be more honest in the response and explain to Mia that planes can't hangout at the airport in China for hours & days on end, and that since there was a 40+ hour wait time at the airport, our supplies couldn't get unloaded in time.

Could say that we're closely monitoring the congestion issue & considering alternative options & that we're working closely with officials in China, including Ambassador Barton and other diplomatic staff to navigate the current, complex supply chain environment.

Could also include the line your Minister said earlier about how we're monitoring & strengthening our supply chain from the source all the way to distribution.

**From:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) <cecely.roy@canada.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2020 5:32 PM  
**To:** Zimmerman, Shannon <Shannon.Zimmerman@dpmo-cvpm.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Stickney, Matt <Matt.Stickney@pmo-cpm.gc.ca>; Kim, Sabrina <Sabrina.Kim@pmo-cpm.gc.ca>; Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC) <emily.harris@canada.ca>; Wellstead, Alex <Alex.Wellstead@pmo-cpm.gc.ca>; Vaillancourt, Ann-Clara <Ann-Clara.Vaillancourt@pmo-cpm.gc.ca>; Laycock, Tristan (SPAC/PSPC) <tristan.laycock@canada.ca>; Lawrence, Alex <Alex.Lawrence@dpmo-cvpm.gc.ca>; Nathoo, Farees <Farees.Nathoo@dpmo-cvpm.gc.ca>; Cuplinskas, Katherine <Katherine.Cuplinskas@dpmo-cvpm.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: Planes flag

Adding draft response here, please see below.

We have included confirmation on the one plane and have clarified successful landing of 4 others in the same time period, as this is information that in some shape or form is clearly already out there, and does correspond with the ground work that has been laid over the past weeks on global supply chain fragility.

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We are taking an aggressive procurement approach to secure the life-saving equipment and supplies that Canada needs from a diverse range of suppliers both internationally and here at home, while recognizing the risks posed by fragile supply chains, the fluidity of the current situation around the world and high global demand.

We can confirm that four flights arrived safely in Canada from China over the weekend carrying medical supplies like N95 masks, protective coveralls as well as orders for other jurisdictions, including Quebec and the Red Cross.

In addition to this, one federally chartered cargo flight returned from China to Canada over the weekend without its intended shipment on board. This occurred due to a confluence of circumstances including a

significant surge in cargo flights out of terminals at the Shanghai Airport. Steps are being taken to ensure that this does not take place moving forward.

Our government will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that we have the supplies to meet both Canada's short and long term needs.

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Thanks,

**Cecely Roy**

*Press Secretary | Attachée de presse*

*Office of the Minister of Public Services and Procurement | Bureau de la ministre des Services publics et de l'Approvisionnement*

*(343) 549-7293*

On Apr 20, 2020, at 5:13 PM, Zimmerman, Shannon <[Shannon.Zimmerman@dpmo-cvpm.gc.ca](mailto:Shannon.Zimmerman@dpmo-cvpm.gc.ca)> wrote:

Adding on my side.

I also think on background we should just explain why planes can't just sit around and wait (capacity of airport, crew, etc). This really feeds in to the Wild West story fife ran.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 20, 2020, at 5:00 PM, Stickney, Matt <[Matt.Stickney@pmo-cpm.gc.ca](mailto:Matt.Stickney@pmo-cpm.gc.ca)> wrote:

Remember that Mia was the hill reporter for the Winnipeg free press forever. So she'll get that angle.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 20, 2020, at 4:40 PM, Kim, Sabrina <[Sabrina.Kim@pmo-cpm.gc.ca](mailto:Sabrina.Kim@pmo-cpm.gc.ca)> wrote:

Thanks. Adding. Do you have her first story? I don't see it anywhere!

I assume we can just use the standard response that says this is the Wild West, we're working hard on building, strengthening and diversifying our supply chain, including by ratcheting up our domestic capacity?

Sabrina Kim  
Issues Advisor  
Office of the Prime Minister  
613-795-7803

On Apr 20, 2020, at 4:38 PM, Harris,  
Emily (SPAC/PSPC)  
<[emily.harris@canada.ca](mailto:emily.harris@canada.ca)> wrote:

First media request received from Mia Rabson, CP-  
working on a response:

Wondering if you can confirm or explain if the  
question Andrew Scheer asked in QP today is  
correct. He said three Canadian planes that were  
sent to China to pick up medical supplies returned  
empty yesterday.

Did that happen?

What other details can you give me about it?

Working on an ASAP deadline. First version of the  
story based on QP is about to be published.